

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method for potentiating an antiaging action of a composition containing (A) ascorbic acid 2-glucoside, the method comprising the step of incorporating at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group (B) consisting of adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate, adenosine 5'-monophosphate, and salts thereof into said composition,

wherein component (B) is present in a proportion of 5 to 500 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of component (A).

13-14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) A potentiating method according to Claim 12, wherein the component (B) is adenosine 5'-monophosphate or a salt thereof.

16-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A method for retarding skin-aging comprising the step of applying to the skin (A) ascorbic acid 2-glucoside and at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group (B) consisting of adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate, adenosine 5'-monophosphate, and salts thereof,

wherein component B is present in a proportion of 5 to 500 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of component (A).

19-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) A method for potentiating a skin pigmentation alleviating action of a composition containing (A) ascorbic acid 2-glucoside, the method comprising the step of incorporating at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group (B) consisting of adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate, adenosine 5'-monophosphate, and salts thereof into said composition,

wherein component (B) is present in a proportion of 5 to 500 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of component (A).

28. (Previously Presented) A potentiating method according to Claim 27, wherein the component (B) is adenosine 5'-monophosphate or a salt thereof.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation comprising the step of applying to pigmented skin (A) ascorbic acid 2-glucoside and at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group (B) consisting of adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate, adenosine 5'-monophosphate, and salts thereof,

wherein component B is present in a proportion of 5 to 500 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of component (A).

31-32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) A potentiating method according to Claim 12, wherein the composition is a cosmetic, or an externally-applied medical or quasi-medical drug.

34. (Currently Amended) A potentiating method according to Claim 12, wherein the component (B) synergistically potentiates the antiaging effect of (A) ascorbic acid 2-glucoside.

35. (Currently Amended) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 18, wherein a composition comprising:

(A) ascorbic acid 2-glucoside; and

(B) at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate, adenosine 5'-monophosphate, and salts thereof,

wherein component (B) is 0.1% to 7% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition;

is applied to the skin.

36. (Previously Presented) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 18, wherein the at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance is adenosine 5'-monophosphate or a salt thereof.

37-39. (Canceled)

40. (Previously Presented) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 35, wherein the composition is a cosmetic, or an externally-applied medical or quasi-medical drug.

41. (Currently Amended) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 18, wherein the purine nucleic acid-related substance synergistically potentiates the antiaging effect of (A) ascorbic acid 2-glucoside.

42-43. (Canceled)

44. (Previously Presented) A potentiating method according to Claim 27, wherein the composition is a cosmetic, or an externally-applied medical or quasi-medical drug.

45. (Currently Amended) A potentiating method according to Claim 27, wherein the component (B) synergistically potentiates the pigmentation alleviating effect of (A) ascorbic acid 2-glucoside.

46. (Currently Amended) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to Claim 30, wherein a composition comprising:

(A) ascorbic acid 2-glucoside; and

(B) at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate, adenosine 5'-monophosphate, and salts thereof,

wherein component (B) is 0.1% to 7% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition;

is applied to the skin.

47. (Previously Presented) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to Claim 30, wherein the at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance is adenosine 5'-monophosphate or a salt thereof.

48-50. (Canceled)

51. (Previously Presented) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to Claim 46, wherein the composition is a cosmetic, or an externally-applied medical or quasi-medical drug.

52. (Currently Amended) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to ~~claim~~ Claim 30, wherein the purine nucleic acid-related substance synergistically potentiates the pigmentation alleviating effect of (A) ascorbic acid 2-glucoside.

53. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 12, wherein component (B) is 0.1% to 7% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.

54. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 27, wherein component (B) is 0.1% to 7% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.